

HEADQUARTERS 320TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP (M)  
Office of the Group Intelligence Officer  
APO 520 U.S. ARMY

Intelligence Narrative No. 95, Ray Operation 24 October 1943

Twenty-seven B-26's of the 320th Bombardment Group (M) took off this morning to bomb railroad bridge southeast of Orvieto, Italy. They accompanied the 319th Bombardment Group, and were escorted by P-38's of the 1st Fighter Group. Three B-26's returned early, all spares.

The primary target was obscured by cloud cover; the alternate, railroad bridge 6 miles northeast of Orvieto was bombed.

20/25 MG-109's and PR-190's were encountered in the target area; 5 were destroyed; 3 were probably destroyed and 1 was damaged.

Twenty-three B-26's landed safely at Decimomannu A/D, Sardinia and returned to this base on schedule. One B-26 landed at Alghero A/D, Sardinia due to lack of fuel, and is now there with a collapsed nosegear.

Routes and Altitudes:

To target: From rendezvous with 319th Group at base at 3000; 14° T to rendezvous with escort at Cape Zebib, 300 statute miles; 32° T for 20 statute miles to western tip of Lake Bolsena climbing gradually to 10500; abortive bomb run on primary target 82° T for 20 statute miles at 10000; bomb run of 319th Group, 100° T for 20 statute miles to Terni; curve left, bomb run on target bombed at 10000.

From target: 60 statute miles to Lake Bolsena; 222° T for 20 statute miles; 216° T for 248 statute miles to Decimomannu A/D, dropping gradually to 3000.

From Decimomannu A/D: 163° T for 143 statute miles to base, at 2500.

Bombs: 108 x 1000-lb. demolition bombs, 1/10 and .025 second delay fuses, carried by 27 B-26's.  
12 x 1000-lb. demolition bombs returned to base in B-26's that returned early.  
60 x 1000-lb. demolition bombs dropped over the target area.  
8 x 1000-lb. demolition bombs salvaged in sea after the target, having not been dropped because element leaders did not drop.  
28 x 1000-lb. demolition bombs carried to Decimomannu A/D, having not been dropped because target was not identified in time.

Chronology: Time off between 0900 and 0913; rendezvous with 319th Group and on course 0935; rendezvous with escort 0945; target 1152; down at Decimomannu A/D Sardinia between 1331 and 1343; down at base between 1524 and 1625.

Results: The target bombed was obscured by bomb bursts from bombing of B-25's. Some bombs were reported landing on top of these bursts and others across the railroad tracks north of the target. Most bombs were wide of the target.

Flak: 3 bursts of heavy flak were seen above a point northwest of Mancina at 1155 at the formation's altitude, but several miles north. They appeared

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to be directed at E/A that were maneuvering in and out of clouds in that vicinity.

Enemy Aircraft: 1) 20/25 ME-109's and FW-190's attacked in the target area; 5/6 before the bomb run and 15/20 on leaving the coast after the bombing. 5 were destroyed, 5 were probably destroyed and one was damaged without loss.

2) 21 A/C on Orvieto A/D were seen at 1152 from 10000.  
3) Two aerial bomb bursts above and to the right of the formation with heavy black bursts in the vicinity of the target.

Enemy Aircraft Tactics: 2 ME-109's came in from the left on the approach to the target and fired shells into the rear of the formation from 1000 yds. range. The shells left white trails from the firing A/C until exploded near our formation with large black bursts; the shells are presumed to be either rockets or 37 mm. cannon shells.

Other attacks were made principally from 5 to 6 o'clock level, with a few at 11 o'clock high and one at 3 o'clock. They were, generally speaking, not aggressive; only about half closing to 300 yds. E/A made use of cloud cover in making approaches.

Enemy shipping: 1 large M/V in Civitavecchia Harbor was seen at 1135 from 9500.

General Observations:

1) 5 M/T were observed northwest of Montalle di Castro, headed north, were seen at 1138 from 10000.

2) 3 M/T were seen headed south 5 miles south of Ficulle at 1152 from 10000.

3) A convoy about one mile long was seen stopped in the road between Canine and Valentano at 1140 from 10000.

4) 40/50 railroad cars in the M/T at Gemini were seen at 1153 from 10000.

5) A large ammunition factory and dump was seen at 42° 42' N, 12° 39' E at 1150 from 10000.

Our Losses: None. 3 B-26's slight damaged by E/A fire. One B-26 collapsed nosegear on landing at Elmas A/D, Sardinia; crew is believed safe.

Victories: 5 ME-109's destroyed; 5 ME-109's probably destroyed; 2 ME-109's and 1 FW-190 damaged.

Weather: En route CAVU and scattered cumulus; target much ground fog, 4/10 cumulus at 5000'; return as en route with a frost just east of Sardinian coast.

Comments: None.

JAMES H. MACIA, Jr.  
Major, Air Corps,  
Group Intelligence Officer.

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*06/10*

MISSION # 120

FLIGHT COMMANDER: CAPT McCORMY

24 October 1943

1ST LT LIGHT COMMANDER:

Felt  
90 ✓

Barnett  
94 ✓

Valls  
86 ✓

W. R. De  
89 76 ✓

HALL  
85 78 ✓

PETERSON *Green*  
72 80 ✓

SPALDING  
45 ✓

BRADSHAW  
58 ✓

GOFF  
57 60 ✓

WILSON  
41 ✓

S. J. GALT  
64 ✓

CAUDILL  
27 ✓

WATSON  
47 ✓

WILSON  
37 ✓

DAVIS  
28 ✓

BELMONT  
25 ✓

SMITH  
31 ✓

FLEMMING  
38 ✓

WINTER  
7 ✓

WALKER  
18 ✓

STEINBERG  
6 ✓

WILSON  
4 ✓

HOY  
14 ✓

KAPSTEIN  
5 ✓

S P A R E S

WILSON  
80 95 ✓

WILSON  
44

YOUNG  
43 ✓

VALLS (N)  
20 ✓

COLORS OF THE DAY

24 October 1943

B-File	2-STAR	LETTER CHALLENGE	LETTER REPLY	LETTER COLOR
0100-0700	GG	J	S	RED
0700-1300	NR	C	B	WHITE
1300-1900	YY	X	I	RED
1900-2300	NY	L	Y	WHITE

RADIO: MAYFLOWER  
VHF: CHANNEL "C"

THE FOLLOWING CREWS PARTICIPATED IN THE RAID ON RAILROAD BRIDGE SOUTH OF ORVIETO ITALY  
24 Oct. 1943.

names of the crews	Squadron	Plane No.
Barrett, Pilot, Capt. Harris, Co, Pilot, Capt. Brown, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Shyrook, Navigator, 1st Lt. Well, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. Kraker, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Hedgpath, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th  Capt MCCRORY Flight commander	94 Took off 0900 Landed: 1609
Burns, Pilot, 1st Lt. Caffey, Co, Pilot, F/O. Ramirez, Bombardier, S/sgt. Snebold, Engineer gunner, T/sgt. Smith, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Petroski, Aerial gunner, M/sgt.	444th	86 Took off 0900½ Landed 1610
Fair, Pilot, 1st Lt. Stewart, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Chouard, Bombardier, S/sgt. Babler, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Mikles, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Haney, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th  Montgomery, Photographer, Sgt.	90 took off 0901 Landed: 1609+
Hallowell, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bash, Co, Pilot, 1st Lt. Dittmar, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Merone, Navigator, Captain, Etsel, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Goodsen, Observer, 1st Lt.	444th  Gardner, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Bourgault, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	78 Took off 0901½ Landed: 1601
Green, Pilot, 1st Lt. Reeves, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Breeding, Bombardier, S/sgt. Deleale, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Brown, Radio Gunner, S/sgt. Long, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	80 1600 Took off 0902 Landed
Edwards, Pilot, 1st Lt. Conley, Co, Pilot, F/O. Robinson, Bombardier, 2nd Lt. Clark, Engineer gunner, S/sgt. Collins, Radio Gunner, T/sgt. Harrison, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.	444th	76 Took off 0902½ Landed 1601+
Peterson, Pilot, 1st Lt. Laughlin, Co, Pilot, 2nd Lt. Morocco, Bombardier, S/sgt. Porter, Engineer gunner, Higgins, Radio Gunner, Kieffer, Aerial gunner, Sgt.	spare; 11111 444th	95 took off 0911 Landed 1121

NAMES OF THE CREWS.

SQUADRON

PLANE NO.

Barber, Pilot, 1st Lt.  
Beaudro, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt.  
Grove, Navigator, Captain.  
Keridis, Bombardier, 1st Lt.  
Drumpech, Radio Gunner, T/sgt.  
Dross, Aerial gunner,  
Hanson, Engineer gunner, Cpl.

4432nd

58  
Took off 0903½  
Landed 1607

Goff, Pilot, 1st Lt.  
Hunter, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt.  
Butler, Observer, Captain.  
Dufour, Bombardier, S/sgt.  
Hansen, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.  
Karchinaki, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.  
Ramariz, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.

4432nd

60  
took off 0904  
Landed 1617

Space, Pilot, 2nd Lt.  
Calhoun, Co. Pilot, 1st Lt.  
Thompson, Bombardier, S/sgt.  
Martin, Radio Gunner, T/sgt.  
MC GAHA, AERIAL GUNNER, S/sgt.  
Caputo, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.

4432nd

45  
took off 0904½  
Landed 1626

Swigart, Pilot, 1st Lt.  
Brown, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt.  
Habel, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.  
Lacerva, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.  
Lewis, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.  
Lillo, Engineer gunner, S/sgt.

443rd

64  
Took off 0905  
Landed 1545

Candill, Pilot, Flt. Off.  
Gilbert, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt.  
Carroll, Bombardier, 1st Lt.  
Nelson, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.  
Hildenbrand, Aerial gunner,  
Griewank, Engineer gunner,

443rd

27  
Took off 0905½  
Landed 1558

Long, Pilot, 2nd Lt.  
Hale, Co. Pilot, flt. off.  
Hosmer, N. B., S/sgt.  
Bergamo, Radio Gunner, S/sgt.  
Cimo, Aerial gunner, S/sgt.  
Harrold, Engineer gunner S/sgt.

443rd

Remained  
in Sandania.

41  
Took off 0906  
Landed,

Sheard, Pilot, 1st Lt.  
Palmer, Co. Pilot, 2nd Lt.

S P A R E

443rd

No take off.

44  
Took off

NAMES OF CREW MEMBERS	SQUADRON	LANE NO.
Morley, Pilot, Capt. Himmelreich, Co-Pilot, 1st Lt. Harrison, Bombardier, 1st Lt. Payton, Navigator, 2nd Lt. Caldwell, Eng gunner, S/Sgt. Uncles, Radio gunner, S.Sgt. Martin, Aerial gunner, T/Sgt.	442nd	37 Took off: 0907 Landed: 1540
Davis, Pilot, 1st Lt. Richards, Co-Pilot, F/O. Amundson, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt. Dunn, Eng gunner, S/Sgt. Hogan, Radio gunner, S/Sgt. Covert, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt. Laster, Waist gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	28 Took off: 0907½ Landed: 1547
Dryer, Pilot, 1st Lt. DeFan, Co-Pilot, 1st Lt. Walker, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Hall, Eng gunner, S/Sgt. Schaus, Radio gunner, S/Sgt. Legutko, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt. Levesque, Waist gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	47 Took off: 0908 Landed: 1613 Lt Herrick flew as observer.
Baird, Pilot, 1st Lt. Brast, Co-Pilot, 2nd Lt. Abeln, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt. Gomez, Eng gunner, S/Sgt. Trupka, Radio gunner, S/Sgt. Baronet, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	31 Took off: 0908½ Landed: 1622+ Maj Gladden flew as observer.
Tiemann, Pilot, 1st Lt. Bougher, Co-Pilot, F/O. Hermann, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt. Cross, Eng gunner, S/Sgt. Godfrey, Radio gunner, S/Sgt. Burns, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	38 Took off: 0909 Landed: 1624 Capt Cook flew as observer
Byram, Pilot, 1st Lt. Chandler, Co-Pilot, 2nd Lt. Beatty, Bomb Nav, 1st Lt. Garbenches, Eng gunner, S/Sgt. Moore, Radio gunner, Sgt. Buchanan, Aerial gunner, T/Sgt.	442nd	26 Took off: 0909½ Landed: 1624+
Young, Pilot, 1st Lt. Smith, Co-Pilot, 2nd Lt. Jacobson, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt. Gloeckner, Eng gunner, S/Sgt. Hageman, Radio gunner, S/Sgt. Turner, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt.	442nd	43 Took off: 0913½ Landed: 1135

## NAMES OF CREW MEMBERS

## SQUADRON

## PLANE NO.

Owen, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	18	
Wills, Co-Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0910	
Konvalinka, Navigator, 2nd Lt.		Landed:	1545
Goldberg, Bombardier, 2nd Lt.			
Tackmann, Eng gunner, S/Sgt.			
Spears, Radio gunner, S/Sgt.			
Mazzo, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt.			
Steinberg, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	6	
Hunsberger, Co-Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0910 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Eastburn, Bomb Nav, T/Sgt.		Landed:	1557
Smith, Eng gunner, S/Sgt.			
DeMarco, Radio gunner, S/Sgt.			
Dickinson, Aerial gunner, S/Sgt.			
Koontz, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	7	
Lankford, Co-Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0911	
Scott, Bomb Nav, T/Sgt.		Landed:	1543
Hill, Eng gunner, S/Sgt.			
Apgar, Radio gunner, T/Sgt.			
Griner, Aerial gunner, Pfc.			
Hoy, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	14	
Hubbard, Co-Pilot, 2nd Lt.		Took off: 0911 $\frac{1}{2}$	1544
Moore, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.		Landed:	
Delaware, Eng gunner, S/Sgt.		S/Sgt Taylor flew as extra Radio Operator	
Juve, Radio gunner, S/Sgt.			
Kary, Aerial gunner, Sgt.			
Kapstein, Pilot, 2nd Lt.	441st	5	
Laloe, Co-Pilot, F/O.		Took off: 0912	1525
Cukar, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.		Landed:	
Trebenda, Eng gunner, S/Sgt.		Sgt Bushong flew as photographer.	
Berrigan, Radio gunner, Sgt.			
Bakkstead, Aerial gunner, Sgt.			
Timmons, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	4	
St.Arno, Co-Pilot, F/O.		Took off: 0912 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Camp, Bomb Nav, S/Sgt.		Landed:	1544
Gignac, Eng gunner, S/Sgt.			
Cromer, Radio gunner, S/Sgt.			
Corp, Aerial gunner, Sgt.			
Valls, Pilot, 1st Lt.	441st	20	
Robbins, Co-Pilot, 1st Lt.		Took off: 0913	
Perkins, Bomb Nav, 2nd Lt.		Landed: 1136	
Chilton, Eng gunner, S/Sgt.			
Corona, Radio gunner, S/Sgt.			
Herbert, Aerial gunner, Sgt.			